

4 May 1951

Senator Edward Martin  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Martin:

Thank you for your cordial letter of May 1st, in which you join with Mr. Harry Scharf, Chairman of the Alumni Day Committee, in extending an invitation to me to speak at the annual Alumni Day Dinner of the Gettysburg College on June 1st.

I am honored by this invitation and only wish that I could accept. Unfortunately, I have had to decline and have so informed Mr. Scharf.

For many reasons, it is both undesirable and inappropriate for me to speak to gatherings of this nature at the present time. I know, Senator, you will appreciate the fact that people in my present business prefer as much anonymity as possible. Therefore, I have declined all speaking invitations except those of an instructional nature at the service schools of the Defense Department and similar organizations.

Your invitation is very much appreciated and I regret that circumstances will not permit me to accept.

Sincerely,

*Walter B. Smith*  
Walter B. Smith  
Director

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